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FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0042
INFO RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 7972
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 4087
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 3395
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ FEB LIMA 3038
RUEHGL/AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL 4107
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RHMFIISS/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL
RUEKJCS/Joint STAFF WASHDC
RHMFIISS/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC 2262
RHEFHLC/DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DC
RUEAWJA/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC

UNCLAS QUITO 000122

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PGOV PREL EC
SUBJECT: GOE DECLARAS EMBASSY OFFICER PERSONA NON GRATA

¶1. (SBU) The Embassy received two diplomatic notes on February 18 related to Embassy officer Mark Sullivan's expulsion. The first, dated February 16 and delivered in hard copy on the morning of February 18, requests that Sullivan depart the country this week. The second, dated February 18 and sent by fax the afternoon of February 18, declares Sullivan persona non grata and gives him 48 hours to leave the country. Texts of the two diplomatic notes are provided in paragraphs 2 and 3 below.

¶2. (SBU) Informal translation of the February 16 diplomatic note:

(Begin Text)

Republic of Ecuador
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Commerce and Integration

No. 8490 GM/SRB

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Commerce and Integration presents its compliments to the Honorable Embassy of the United States of America, with the purpose of referring to the statements of Mr. Marck Sullivan (Note: First name misspelled in the original. End note) reported in the Investigative Report presented by the Ecuadorian National Police about the Special Investigations Unit (UIES), according to which the above cited Embassy officer informed Ecuadorian authorities about the decision to suspend the Government of the United States of America's assistance to the UIES, and requesting the handover of computer equipments, armaments, and vehicles that had been granted as a loan to the aforementioned Investigations Unit to fulfill its duty.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to underline the fact that Mr. Sullivan's request exerted unacceptable coercion over the will of Ecuadorian public officials. Furthermore, by removing that equipment, the Ecuadorian State was deprived of information stored over years by the UIES, which constitutes serious damage to the investigations of that National Police unit.

In accordance with what was expressed during the telephone conversation held on the 13th of this month between the Under Secretary of Bilateral Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Jorge Orbe, and the Ambassador of the United States of America, Heather Hodges, as well as with the arguments

stated in this note, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Commerce and Integration, repeats the Government of Ecuador's request that Mr. Marck Sullivan abandon the country within this week.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs expresses, once again, the will of the Ecuadorian Government to maintain the best relations with the Government of the United States of America, based on mutual respect and on non-interference in domestic affairs.

Quito, February 16, 2008 (Note: The year is wrong in the original. End note.)

To the Honorable
Embassy of the United States of America
City.-
(End Text.)

¶3. (SBU) Informal translation of the February 18 diplomatic note:
(Begin Text)

Republic of Ecuador
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Commerce and Integration

No. 8961 GM/VM/SRB/2009

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Commerce and Integration presents its compliments to the Honorable Embassy of the United States of America and informs it that, based on what is established in Article 9 of the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, it declares Mr. Mark A. Sullivan, First Secretary of the Embassy, persona non grata.

Mr. Mark A. Sullivan has forty eight hours to leave Ecuador.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Commerce and Integration takes the opportunity of reiterate to the Honorable Embassy of the United States of America the assurances of its highest consideration.

Quito, February 18, 2009.

To the Honorable
Embassy of the United States of America
City.-

(End Text)

HODGES